Department of Energy

Ohio Field Office
Fernald Closure Project
175 Tri-County Parkway
Springdale, Ohio 45246
(513) 648-3155

FEB 14 2005

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V-SRF-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

DOE-0153-05

Mr. Thomas Schneider, Project Manager
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southwest District Office
401 East Fifth Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

EXPEDITED EXCAVATION OF WASTE PIT MATERIALS, FERNALD CLOSURE PROJECT

The purpose of this letter is to document the Department of Energy's (DOE) plans under the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project (WPRAP) to expedite the removal of remaining materials from the waste pits for loadout and shipment off-site to Envirocare for disposal, for information to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA).

As discussed with your agencies during the January 25, 2005, weekly conference call, under an expedited excavation action, all remaining waste material, as well as 6" of liner from below the waste/liner interface will be removed out of the waste pits by the end of March. Currently, WPRAP estimates there are approximately 70,000 tons of waste pit materials, including pit waste and liner, remaining to be excavated. The existing WPRAP facilities do not have sufficient capacity to accommodate all of this material, so, material will be staged in a temporary working pile near the Waste Pits remediation facilities until it can be brought into the Material Handling Building (MHB) for loadout.

Materials that cannot be placed directly within the Material Handling facilities will be staged immediately outside of the MHB. These materials will be staged in the area of the existing concrete surfaces from: the former Dryer pad; the former Gas Cleaning System/Water Treatment System Building pad; and, the former Maintenance Building pad. These former facility areas were razed recently by the Demolition, Soil & Disposal Project (DSDP). In between these

existing concrete pads, a geotextile fabric will be placed on top of the graveled surfaces prior to staging material. The area chosen has the ability to collect runoff water and direct it to the WPRAP Stormwater Management Pond. Once staged, the material will be managed for effective dust control and erosion prevention consistent with approved plans. The temporary working pile will have a capacity of approximately 40,000 tons. Please refer to the attached Figure that shows this area of approximately 150 feet north to south by 300 feet east to west.

Upon removal of the last of the debris from these concrete pad areas, the WPRAP is set to begin lay down of the geotextile fabric. First placements of materials in a temporary working pile should commence in the last week of February. Final placement should conclude at the end of March. Along with WPRAP's accelerated Unit Train shipping schedule of one Unit Train per week, use of this temporary working pile should terminate in the beginning of May. Overall, the WPRAP schedule currently shows completion of waste loadout at the end of May given our estimates of the remaining material.

As you may deduce, expediting waste removal from the remaining pits (i.e., Waste Pits 1, 2, 3, and the Burn Pit) has substantial benefits. Expediting waste removal supports an expedited turnover of these remaining waste pits to DSDP for final soils remediation. From a water management standpoint, this action will reduce, and then eliminate, the contact water from the pits at a faster pace, thereby facilitating site-wide water management. The underlying aquifer will be better protected without the remaining waste materials in the partially excavated pits during the upcoming wet spring season. Finally, this effort will allow an earlier and more exact quantification of the total remaining WPRAP material which will support overall project closure planning.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Dave Lojek at (513) 648-3127.

Sincerely,

William J. Taylor
Director

FCP:Lojek

Enclosure: As Stated

cc w/enclosure:
D. Pfister, OH/FCP
J. Reising, OH/FCP
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, SR-6J
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (three copies of enclosure)
F. Bell, ATSDR
M. Cullerton, Tetra Tech
M. Shupe, HSI GeoTrans
R. Vandegrift, ODH
AR Coordinator, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS78

cc w/o enclosure:
R. Abitz, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS64
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T. Snider, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS64
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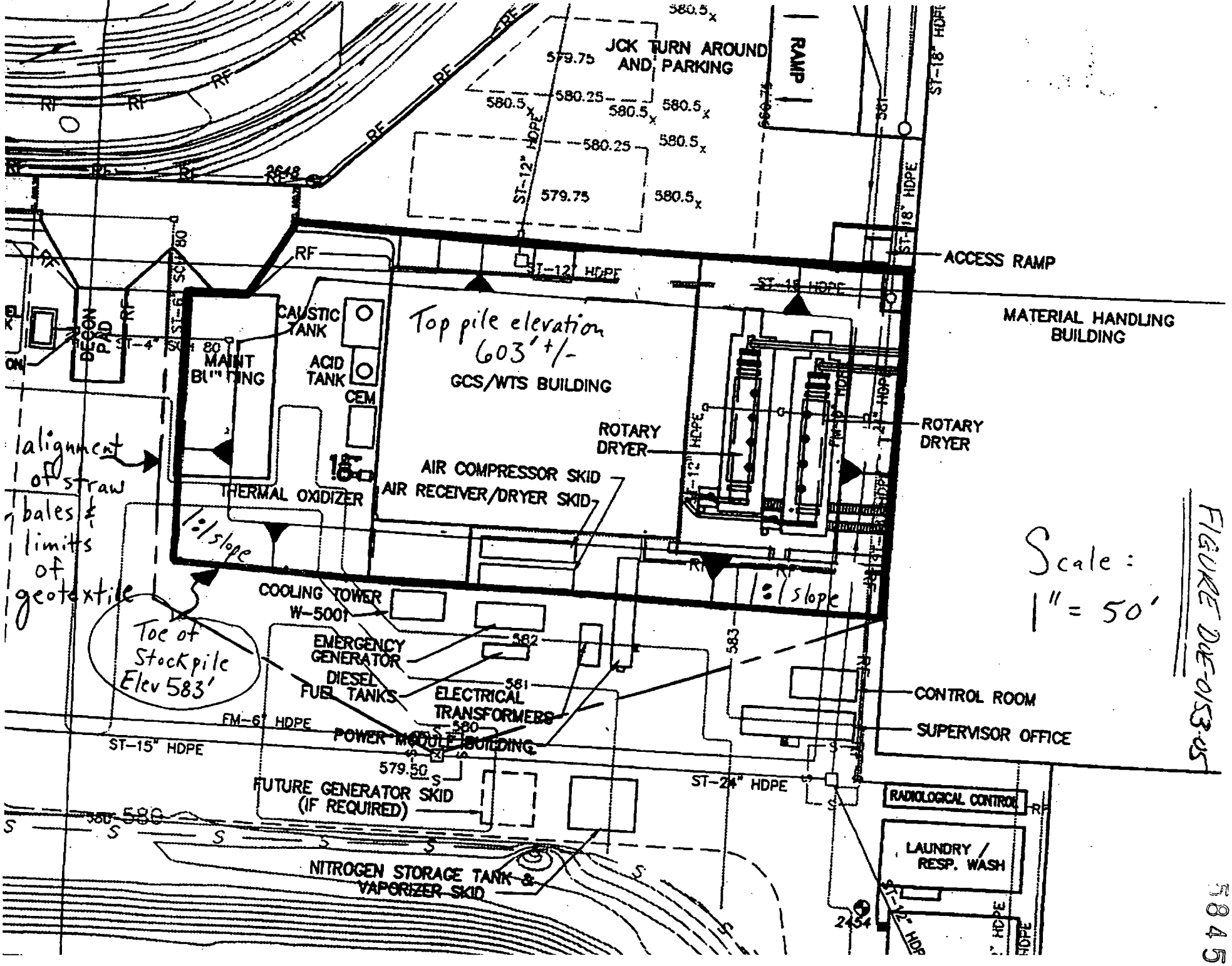
ECDC, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-7



Scale: 1" = 50'

FIGURE DE-0153-05

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